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Shuster Announces ARC Grant to Juniata Valley School District

Washington, D.C. – Today, **Congressman Bill Shuster** joined with Juniata Valley School District Superintendent Jim Foster to announce a \$74,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant for the school district's ongoing "Energy Efficiency Renovation and Curriculum" project.

"This is a great example of how federal grants can be used to encourage environmentally responsible economic development," Shuster said. "Not only will the ARC funds improve the lives of students who will receive an enhanced science education, but the school district will save money through energy efficient improvements to the high school."

The grant was awarded to the school district through a special ARC regional initiative that targets funding to encourage and support energy related economic development. The Juniata Valley School District will use the grant money to install energy efficiency equipment as part of the High School's ongoing renovation and institute a K-12 energy efficiency curriculum to expand the current science curriculum to include energy efficiency topics.

In addition to the ARC funding, the school district will match the funds with \$148,000 in private money to total \$222,000 for this green renovation and education project.

"I would like to thank Congressman Shuster and the Appalachian Regional Commission for the opportunity to enhance our Science Curriculum and to install energy efficient heating and cooling equipment in our school district," said Superintendent Jim Foster.

ARC Federal Co-Chair Anne B. Pope said Juniata Valley School District was one of the winners of ARC's energy efficiency grants competition that stood out among numerous applicants. "Making the most of Appalachia's energy resources to create jobs also means promoting energy efficiency wherever we can," Pope stated. "This project promises to do just that, and we hope that it serves as a model for other school systems. Juniata Valley School District is to be commended for their forward looking vision."

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